GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1488
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2004
AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN ONGC & RUSSIA
Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC have any proposal to sign/signed an agreement with the Skochinsky Institute of Mining, Russia for using technology to get gas from coal mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the quality and cost of coal gas is equivalent to the natural gas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b) : Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Skochinsky Institute of Mining, Russia on 25th November 2004 for Underground Coal Gasification (UCG).

Under this MoU, Russian UCG technology will be utilized to convert underground coal/lignite into combustible gases.

(c) & (d) : The calorific value of UCG gas is 10% to 35% of the natural gas. The cost of the gas is dependent on several factors like depth, thickness, quality, etc. of coal seams. The project is in the preliminary/starting stage and it would be premature to precisely indicate the price.